



MAYOR DEKE COPENHAVER

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News Release

Date: February 15, 2006

Re: Mayor Copenhaver Welcomes a New South Augusta Hiking Trail

Mayor Deke Copenhaver met with volunteers from the American Hiking Society today at Lombard Mill Pond, one of the City's permanently protected Greenspaces in South Augusta. The volunteers, hosted by the City's non-profit partner, the Central Savannah River Land Trust, are in the process of building a 2 mile public hiking trail around the Mill Pond - a trail which will, in the near future, extend from Fort Gordon to Phinizy Swamp and will travel through over 600 acres of preserved forest.

The Lombard Mill Pond trail is a project near and dear to the Mayor's heart. Two years ago, it was Mayor Copenhaver who purchased the 50 acre wetland and surrounding hardwood forest for the City of Augusta. As Executive Director of the Land Trust at that time, Mayor Copenhaver worked with both City and State officials to protect the area's natural beauty from future development and make it available for public use.

Today, the pond is an excellent area to view waterfowl such as great blue heron, geese, and wood ducks. Pileated woodpecker, deer, beaver, and other wildlife can also be found in abundance in and around the pond. In addition to the trail, the Land Trust has plans to preserve and restore the ruins of the historic Lombard Mill, built in the 19th century, to add to the area's appeal and educational value.

For more information, please contact the Land Trust's Program Manager, Hazel Langrall at info@csrlt.org or 706.312.LAND.